UNITED NATIONS

IDNDR

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR
NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

IDNDR/STC/1993/12
24 November 1993

ORIGINAL: English

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Fifth Session
Geneva, 22-24 November 1993

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

ON

ITS FIFTH SESSION

GE.94-00284

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I. BACKGROUND

1. The Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/236, held its Fifth session in Geneva, from 22 to 24 November 1993.

2. The STC reviewed the work of the IDNDR Secretariat since its Fourth Session. However, the present report calls particular attention to the recommendations made by the STC for the forthcoming World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction to be held in Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994, given the current importance of that event.

II. OPENING OF THE SESSION

A. Introduction

3. Mr. James P. Bruce, Chairman of the STC, and Dr. Olavi Elo, Director of the IDNDR Secretariat welcomed participants. Annex I contains the Chairman's summary report.

B. Adoption of the Agenda and of the Programme of Work for the Session

4. The Chairman called the attention of the STC to the Provisional Agenda (IDNDR/STC/1993/9) and the draft Programme of Work, and invited comments. The Agenda and Programme of Work were adopted without change.

C. Secretariat Progress Report on the Decade

5. The Director of the IDNDR Secretariat presented the progress report of the Secretariat (IDNDR/STC/1993/10) and indicated that this session was taking place at a very busy time, for the Secretariat was having to continue with the implementation of the programme recommended by the STC, and at the same time prepare for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction to be held in Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994, at the invitation of the Government of Japan.

6. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), at its 1994 July substantive session, adopted a decision (E/1993/328), introduced by the Government of Japan, requesting that the General Assembly give further consideration to the plans and preparations for the World Conference. Dr. Elo reported that he had just returned from the UN General Assembly,

currently in session at United Nations Headquarters, where a resolution was being introduced in the Second Committee to give to the World Conference the status of a United Nations Conference. This change of status would allow the World Conference to have the conference-servicing support of the United Nations. This assistance required the presentation of programme budget implications for the United Nations through the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) to the Fifth Committee. When these implications were approved. the resolution would be adopted in plenary session by the General Assembly, and the World Conference would become a fully fledged United Nations Conference. (Editor's note: **GA Resolution A/48/188 has since been adopted**.)

D. Overview of discussions of the STC

7. As one of the major aims of the World Conference is "to sell the feasibility of disaster reduction to policy-makers", intense efforts are to be put into addressing the doubts, apprehensions or reticences of politicians and policy-makers to disaster reduction. As the organizers of the Technical Committee Session on economic aspects of disaster mitigation stated: "mitigation must be shown to be cost-effective in order to be adopted by policy-makers, and we plan to exert all efforts in substantiating this point".

8. Conference topics include vulnerable communities, hazard-resistant construction, the effects of disasters on modern societies, the inter-relationship between technological and natural hazards, economic aspects of disaster reduction for sustainable development, warning systems, and drought management. The interface between the private and public sectors in disaster management, as well as regional reports will be presented in the Main Committee.

9. In addition to the Main and Technical Committee sessions, there will be Scientific and Technical (Poster) sessions, Exhibits and Plenary sessions. At the latter, deliberations on policy issues related to natural disaster reduction will be held in order to lay the ground with a view to creating a receptive environment for the inclusion of disaster reduction measures in development programmes, and for the mobilization of financial and other concrete support as a result thereof.

10. The importance of involving the private sector in Decade activities, strengthening National IDNDR Committees, identifying complementary focal points/channels, and the necessity of involving planners and scientists from developing countries in the planning of technical assistance programmes, were among the key issues raised at the session.

III. STC DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Agenda Item 3 - IDNDR Secretariat Programme

11. The following areas of the programme of work were discussed. Recommendations are listed under each topic.

a) Information Strategy: Public Information; STOP Disasters

(i) IDNDR Day:
The theme for the 1994 International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on vulnerability should be formulated that shall reinforce the outcome of the Yokohama conference and the future programme of the Decade, including vulnerability reduction.

(ii) STOP Disasters:

- The members of the STC indicated that they would do their best to assist the IDNDR Secretariat in identifying potential sources of funding for STOP Disasters in their respective regions and through their contacts. The shortfall is approximately $90,000 for six issues per year.
- Lists of meetings in STOP Disasters should look further ahead so as to announce future events. At present the list is practically outdated when it reaches the readers.
- On Information generally, the media should be actively encouraged and urged to inform the public of major hazards and risks it may be faced with, and of actions needed to reduce vulnerability.
- The members of the STC offered to provide the IDNDR Secretariat with available information on disaster reduction in their respective countries or regions for the next International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction.
- The assistance or cooperation of UN agencies/bodies should be looked into, using IDNDR's support from PAHO as a possible model or precedent.
- Cost savings might possibly be achieved by producing a shorter newsletter, if this proves to be necessary.

b) Information Technology and Systems

- The IDNDR Secretariat should follow the DHA/IERRIS project development, and make appropriate proposals to the STC to improve disaster data and information.

- Messrs. Kelhä and Takeda will also follow developments in space and remote sensing technology and applications, and, if possible, attend meetings of the relevant bodies and, jointly with the IDNDR Secretariat, report back to the STC.

c) Economic Aspects of Disasters, and the Private Sector

- The IDNDR Secretariat is requested to dedicate greater attention to the public/private sector interface, and to strengthen the role of the private sector in the IDNDR programme and at the World Conference and, if possible, to set up an experimental advisory body in this domain.

- National IDNDR Committees should be urged to establish permanent links with the private sector in order to attract its interest and involve it in disaster reduction initiatives.

- Regional and national workshops on the role of the private sector in disaster reduction should be promoted and organized; again, National IDNDR Committees should be actively involved in this process.

d) Regional Activities

- The World Conference provides a unique opportunity to initiate joint activities and co-operation between countries, and between regions, during the second half of the Decade, and beyond.

- It is not always possible, nor even desirable, to draw a sharp distinction between man-made and natural disasters. For example, the effects of civil strife and drought on civilian populations are comparable. Some parts of the world are particularly vulnerable in this respect (displacement, loss of property, loss of basic services ...). In such cases, a multi-sectoral approach is an absolute prerequisite of disaster reduction.

- Networking among professionals and institutions on a regional and inter-regional basis should be encouraged, and, through such an initiative, significant regional efforts in disaster reduction could serve as a means for technology transfer.

- An interregional partnership should be created between National Committees in donor and recipient countries in order to develop collaborative projects.

- Activities and preparations for the World Conference are actively supported in several regions, notably in the European Union, the South West Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The activities in the latter two Regions have been reported on separately in the Consolidated Progress Report and Information papers for the Fifth Session of the STC.

- Concerning the European Union, a regional meeting of the IDNDR National Committees and Focal Points for IDNDR was convened in Brussels on 27 and 28 September, 1993, in order to discuss individual and coordinated contributions of the EU countries to the objectives of the Decade. The conclusions of this meeting were:

- A coordinated response of the EU countries is needed for the World Conference.
- As one of the major donor regions of the world, the Member States of the European Union may greatly contribute in helping developing countries with their disaster reduction efforts. In this respect, opportunities for integrating disaster reduction into plans for sustainable development should be fully exploited.
- A promising area in which the experience of the EU countries can be used is that of the development of human resources and institution-building for disaster reduction in developing countries.
- A European IDNDR Working Group will be established to continue the dialogue initiated at this meeting, hosted by ECHO (European Community Humanitarian Office). It will assist with liaison between the National IDNDR Committees and Focal Points *and* the Commission, in collaboration with the STC and the IDNDR Secretariat. The first and most urgent task of this Working Group will be to develop an agenda for the adequate representation of EU National IDNDR Committees at Yokohama, and to outline a possible strategy for the second half of the Decade to be presented and discussed at the World Conference.
- This regional meeting has constituted a first step towards a more comprehensive collaboration for disaster reduction between the developing countries and the European Union.
- The Council of Europe has set up an Open Partial Agreement on Major Hazards, with which the STC and the IDNDR Secretariat should strengthen its collaboration.

e) National IDNDR Committees

- A letter from the IDNDR Secretariat should clearly specify requirements for the National reports of the National IDNDR Committees and Focal Points to the Conference.

- The Secretariat is requested to draw up a list of *inactive* IDNDR National Committees/Focal Points, and to identify those countries in which nothing exists yet. STC Members would then be requested to contact the corresponding IDNDR National Committees or Focal Points in their respective regions, as well as the authorities of the countries where no initiatives have been taken, in order to provide advice on possible courses of action to become active.

- STC members should encourage broad-based membership in National IDNDR Committees.

f) National and International Demonstration Projects, International and Regional IDNDR Projects

- The Secretariat presented its progress report on this portion of the programme, including the work of the sub-committee on IDNDR projects, which was set up at the Fourth Session of the STC. A detailed account of progress made between March and October 1993 was presented in the Consolidated Report on Programme Development prepared for the Fifth Session of the STC, and is further commented on in the Chairman's report.

- The importance of national initiatives was stressed.

- The content and benefits of individual projects should be disseminated through a variety of channels, and the IDNDR Secretariat and the STC should play an active role in promoting such projects, especially among potential donors.

- The Committee emphasised the importance of endorsing projects on as wide a range of hazards as possible, and which are clearly of regional interest.

- The Committee also emphasised the role of the sub-committee in selecting IDNDR projects in this respect.

B. Agenda item 4 - World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, Japan, 23 - 27 May, 1994

a) Current Status of the World Conference

12. At the time of finalizing this report, General Assembly Resolution A/48/188 was adopted on 21 December, 1993, by the UN General Assembly. The World Conference has become a United Nations Conference. The resolution was sponsored by Canada, China, Colombia (on behalf of the Group of 77), Japan and the United States of America (later on also by the Members States of the European Union, Finland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). The implications of the resolution are that the IDNDR Secretariat will become the Conference Secretariat, and that the Conference will be serviced by the United Nations Office of Conference Services and other relevant departments/offices. The Conference will be held in the six official languages of the United Nations, and in Japanese. The Government of Japan will contribute substantially to the Conference, inter alia by covering cost difference between holding the Conference in Yokohama, instead of Geneva, and ensuring attendance at the Conference of a number of participants from developing countries, as well as providing local facilities and arrangements. The fact that the World Conference becomes a United Nations Conference has other substantive implications. The present STC Preparatory Committee becomes the STC Technical Preparatory Group, while the UN General Assembly will establish a new Preparatory Committee of UN Member States. The STC and the IDNDR Secretariat are counted upon to continue to assure the professional content of the Conference.

b) Programme of the World Conference

13. The goal of the World Conference is to ensure that policy-makers adopt disaster reduction practices in their respective countries, and that such practices focus on solutions that promote environmentally sustainable development, and improve socio-economic conditions. The Conference is divided into four categories: Plenary sessions for policy statements by high-level governmental representatives; Main Committees for regional reports and for public/private sector interface; Technical Committees on selected topics; and Scientific Poster Sessions. In addition, there will be exhibition space.

14. STC recommendations for the preparation of the World Conference are as follows:

- The Conference organizers should avoid creating a dichotomy between politicians and professionals, i.e. a dialogue should be maintained between these groups in Plenary sessions and Committees.

- The STC endorses the guidelines contained in Information Paper 12.I on the prepartation of regional reports, but recommends that these be made more detailed.

- The Conference should not solely address scientific and technical issues, but place the scientists at the service of society by providing policy-makers with information, know-how and advice that can be put to practical use in reducing disasters.

- Thus, a broad audience is sought to include policy-makers and decision-makers, disaster managers, community leaders, administrators, planners (economic, social and physical).

- There must be a well-concerted interface between technical and policy issues.

- The human rights issue as well as the disaster preparedness theme should not be singled out as separate or side issues, but permeate the Conference as a whole.

- It should be emphasised that the main theme of the whole Conference is **disaster reduction**, *not* relief.

- The World Conference should be planned to achieve maximum political commitment and public awareness.

- The Conference should also be planned so that disaster reduction be seen as an integral part of sustainable development.

- There must be a better exchange of information and co-operation on disaster reduction between countries, particularly between disaster-prone developing countries.

- All sessions of the Conference should have a broad geographic distribution of speakers and presentations, and should also include an adequate developed - developing country balance.

- Emphasis should be given to national and regional experience in preference to Agency projects and programmes.

- The IDNDR Secretariat and the STC should consider what materials emanating from the Conference will be published, how and by whom. For example, the proceedings could be taken up by a publisher as a commercial venture.

15. Recommendations for the Plenary and Main Committee Sessions are as follows (co-ordinators are indicated in brackets):

a) Regional Reports (WHO/PAHO)

- There are to be two Main Committee sessions on Regional Reports, which, if possible, should be grouped.

- A one page abstract in English for each regional session is required by the end of January, 1994.

- The framework for regional reports must be flexible enough to reflect diversity, rather than conform to a rigid format.

- Regional compartmentalization should be avoided and common issues across regions emphasized.

- The Conference must have an impact on policy-makers in particular: the Conference must succeed in creating dynamic policies for disaster reduction.

- PAHO has been asked to organize and coordinate the regional sessionsat the Conference in collaboration with the Technical Preparatory Group.

- Concerning Plenary sessions, while maximum flexibility in the allocation of time must be foreseen (as we will not know until fairly late how many government representatives will attend, or at what level), a structured approach should be adopted and provision made for alternatives, e.g. adding time for regional reports.

- Individual country presentations should be avoided in the Main Committee sessions on Regional Reports: these sessions should be holistic in approach.

b) Public/Private Sector Interface (WHO)

- The linkage between humanitarian emergencies and natural disaster reduction should be emphasized and strengthened in order to make better use of resources usually reserved for relief.

- Disaster reduction should be included in the development planning process, on the basis that risk assessment and reduction save development costs and project capital investment.

- Thus, the economic implications of disasters and disaster reduction should be impressed upon large financial institutions such as IBRD and the regional development banks, on the basis that prevention is better than cure.

- A suitable range of industries should be actively and profitably involved in disaster reduction.

- A full outline for this session must be provided to the IDNDR Secretariat early in January, in time for the next STC Preparatory Group meeting.

16. Recommendations for the Technical Committee Sessions are as follows:

- Organizers of Technical Committee sessions should assume full responsibility for their respective sessions, taking into account the recommendations of the STC Technical Preparatory Group.

- The organizers of the Committees should provide the IDNDR Secretariat and the STC with a final proposed list of topics, speakers, facilitators, and moderators by the end of January, 1994.

- The STC determined that, at Yokohama, 2-page syntheses of the Committees and their recommendations were required, that this be done in non-technical language by the organizers, and provided to the Plenary sessions, as inputs to the Yokohama statement.

- Organizers of Technical Committee Sessions should be aware of and take into account presentations in other sessions that are relevant to theirs.

17. The following specific comments were highlighted in regard to the Technical Committees:

- Additional detailed comments from the STC will be conveyed to the Agency organizers.

- Vulnerable communities (IFRC)
  The role of women in disaster reduction programmes should be emphasized.

- Warning systems (WMO)
  Due attention should be given to community-based warning and response.

- Hazard-resistant structures (WFEO/ICSU)
  - Due attention should be given again to appropriate traditional building techniques that have been abandoned over time because of rapid modernization.
  - In addition, contemporary but non-engineered construction urgently requires attention, in design terms, and in terms of reinforcement and repair.

- Economic aspects of disaster reduction for sustainable development (USNAS/IBRD)
  - The concerns of the developing countries should be fully considered, especially the least-developed countries and small-island developing countries.
  - Disaster reduction must be seen as an attractive and profitable venture for the private sector and governments.

- Drought management (FAO)
  - Case studies from various developing countries in different regions should be presented and;
  - The drought early-warning concept should be well explained and illustrated.

- Modern societies (UNCRD)
  - UNESCO and WFEO are requested to work closely with UNCRD on the preparation of this session.
  - Reference should be made to the role of insurance in disaster reduction.
  - The "Public Information Strategy" should be moved from this session to the session on Hazard-resistant Construction.

- Technological/natural hazards (UNEP)
  Concern was expressed regarding the lack of clarity for preparing this session.

It was agreed that the STC's Technical Preparatory Group would meet with Agency representatives before mid-February, 1994, to firm up plans for all Technical and Main Committee sessions before the inter-governmental Preparatory Committee meets in March, 1994.

18. Recommendations for the Scientific and Technical Poster Sessions (UNESCO):

- A selection procedure should be established for the posters to be exhibited.

- The IDNDR, Secretariat with the collaboration of the STC, should actively solicit posters from different sources in order to make sure that enough will be available at the Conference.

- Organizers of sessions, posters and exhibitions require instructions from the IDNDR Secretariat on how, when and where to dispatch material.

19. Recommendations for exhibits:

The STC attaches special importance to the provision of space for exhibits, and recommends that adequate floor and wall space, and related equipment (panels, slide projectors, videos, etc.) be provided for posters and exhibits as well as related equipment.

20. General recommendations for the preparation of Conference sessions:

- The organizers of Committee sessions are entirely responsible for their particular programmes, including financial implications, such as attendance of speakers at the Conference.

- At least one STC member per Committee shall act as liaison with the STC through the Secretariat.

- All session organizers should ensure appropriate allocation of tasks, as discussed.

- At Yokohama, the chairmen or moderators of each session should present two-page abstracts of their session's conclusions and recommendations, to be presented in plenary, again as possible inputs to the Yokohama Statement.

- The STC wishes to be kept fully informed of the Terms of Reference of the UN Preparatory Committee.

- On the subject of publishing conference materials, there are pre- and post-conference documents, ie. abstracts and proceedings. There are various ways and means of getting conference documents printed and published. Among these is to commission a publisher on a commercial basis. Other means should be explored by the IDNDR Secretariat.

- The STC requests the Secretariat to develop stronger contacts with the media, and make the most of General Assembly Resolution A/48/188 concerning the Conference as a major event for the media.

CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY REPORT

A. Introduction

1. The Fifth Session of the STC focused on three main matters: programme development since STC Four (New Delhi - February 1993), preparations for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, 23 - 27 May, 1994, and preparation of the mid-term review of the Decade (1994), as requested by the UN General Assembly. The Secretariat's consolidated report on programme development and the World Conference greatly assisted in focusing the discussions, as did the information papers from international Agency partners in the Decade, both on their disaster mitigation progress and on their preparation of Topical (Technical) Sessions at the World Conference. Participants in the meeting included present STC members, some newly nominated STC members who had not yet been formally confirmed but attended as invited guests, UN representatives, international NGO representatives, and a number of national representatives.

B. Progress in Programme Development - Highlights and Problems

2. Public Information

It has been difficult to pursue the STC - agreed public information strategy due to lack of funds. However, IDNDR Day (13 October) continues to be a focus of many national and international public information events, including, in 1993, recognition by CNN-TV. With a circulation of 17,000, the Newsletter STOP Disasters has been a major success in providing linkages and communication between countries. Arrangements have been made for a 5th language version in Russian. PAHO has assisted with distribution of 4,000 copies in Latin America. Public information efforts in 1994 will concentrate on publicizing the World Conference, and its outcome.

3. Information Systems and Technology

The Secretariat was asked to take steps (with several STC members) to better coordinate the several efforts underway to improve disaster statistics and technologies to assist disaster mitigation (remote sensing, GIS, etc.). This work will be undertaken in collaboration with the Disaster Mitigation Branch, DHA which has now been combined with the IDNDR Secretariat.

4. Private Sector involvement in IDNDR

The STC welcomed the appointment of a Secretariat officer to liaise with the private sector, and agreed to the creation of an IDNDR advisory group on private sector involvement in the World Conference and beyond.

5. Economic Aspects of Disaster Reduction

With the global economic costs of disasters continuing to rise rapidly to over $60 billion of insured losses in 1992 (Munich Re data), increased attention must be directed towards case studies and cost benefit analyses to demonstrate the value of prevention, warnings and preparedness. It is hoped that the forthcoming US National Academy of Sciences/World Bank meeting on this topic at the World Conference will help set the course for more intensive efforts.

6. National Committees

120 National Committees and Focal Points for the Decade have now been designated. However, of the 47 least developed countries, only 23 are participating in the Decade. Most committees and focal points are preparing national reports for the World Conference, assessing their country's progress in achieving the Decade Targets, and charting a programme for the second part of the Decade.

7. Regional Activities

Regional IDNDR Conferences were reported on for the SW Pacific (Littleton - Australia), Caribbean (Helena Molin Valdes - IDNDR Officer, Costa Rica), and Europe (Prof. M. Lechat, Belgium). Plans for major regional conferences in Addis Ababa on 26-27 November, 1993, and in Cartagena on 21-24 March, 1994, were outlined.

8. DMB Projects

With the Disaster Mitigation Branch of DHA having been merged with the IDNDR Secretariat, a review was given of DMB projects in 12 countries or groups of countries.

9. International Demonstration Projects and IDNDR Projects

Reports from the Secretariat were presented on 36 international projects. A report of the STC's Subcommittee on Projects (Chair, R.L. Kintanar - Philippines) indicated endorsement on behalf of the STC of 11 new IDNDR international projects during 1993. The STC was advised that more than 500 persons from 112 countries participated in project workshops in 1993, and 21 publications on these international projects were issued. Thirty-eight training courses reached more than 400 trainees from 28 developing countries. STC members and the Secretariat will take a more active role in seeking funding for international projects. National and Regional IDNDR technical and training projects were growing in number, and it was urged that all countries register their projects with the IDNDR Secretariat.

10. UNCED Follow-up

Several initiatives were noted which recognize disaster mitigation as a key to sustainable development in many countries. The German government will be sponsoring a workshop in Berlin from 25 to 28 January, 1994, on disasters and development. OECD con-

tinues to work on this issue, and the UN Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island States will consider a document on this topic. The UN's Commission for Sustainable Development should be encouraged to take up this topic as part of the follow-up to Agenda 21. At the same time, work on the Framework Convention on Climate Change, expected to come into force with sufficient numbers of ramifications by about the end of 1993, and the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change, focusing attention on response to, and adaptation to climatic extremes (storms, floods, droughts), are closely related to IDNDR goals.

C. World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, 23 - 27 May 1994

11. Arrangements and Status

Dr. Elo reported on negotiations both at the UN New York, and with the host country, Japan. The outcome appeared to be very promising, with a widely-backed UN Resolution having been approved by Second Committee. The Resolution was passed on 21 December, 1993 (A/48/188), designating the World Conference as a fully fledged UN Conference. This will permit full support of UN Conference Services and Public Relations staff and participation at the highest levels of UN and Government. The host country is providing, in addition to facilities and costs of support of the Conference, for the attendance of a number of representatives from developing countries. However, additional funds are being sought from donors for this purpose and to assist in the preparatory process. An Inter-governmental Preparatory Committee meeting will now be required and will probably be held in Geneva in March 1994.

12. World Conference Programme

Professor Lechat, Chairman of the STC's Technical Preparatory Committee reported on planning for the conference sessions. There will be a series of Plenary Sessions for brief national presentations by Ministers and very senior officials. Concurrently, there will be a series of half day Technical Committee and Main Committee sessions. For these latter two types of sessions, a number of international organizations have agreed to take responsibility for the organization and assembly of appropriate speakers and panellists. The goal is to demonstrate forcefully the benefits, in saving lives and property damage, of various kinds of disaster mitigation activities.

13. The Technical Committee Sessions will be as follows:

Vulnerable Communities (islands, children, etc.)
IFRC, UNICEF

Warning Systems
WMO, UNESCO

Hazard Resistant Structures
ICSU, UNESCO, WFEO/UATI

Economic Benefits
World Bank (IBRD)/USNAS

Drought Management
FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNESCO, WMO

Inter-relationship between Technological and Natural Disasters
UNEP

Modern Societies (Megacities - Technological Developments)
UNCRD, UNCHS

14. Main Committee Sessions will feature:

(a) Regional Reports and Cooperation - Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and partners;

(b) Private Sector Involvement - World Health Organization (WHO) and partners.

15. In addition, there will be:

(a) Rotating Poster Sessions on IDNDR projects and other technical activities - UNESCO;

(b) An exhibition hall for national displays;

(c) A display of children's art on disaster mitigation from national competitions.

16. A luncheon workshop was held on the possible contents of a Yokohama Statement which yielded many valuable ideas to carry to the Conference. The major outcome is expected to be programme guidelines for the second half of the Decade, along with a consensus on the best means of achieving Decade Targets.

D. Mid-Term Review of the Decade

17. A mid-term review has been required in 1994 by the UN General Assembly. While it is hoped that the Yokohama Conference will provide the substantive part of this review, it was recognized that in order to provide this to ECOSOC in time for translation and reproduction for its July 1994 meeting, much of the report preparation must precede the World Conference - with the Conference report provided later as an Annex. The UN General Assembly will consider the combined report at its autumn 1994 meeting.

18. The Secretariat will begin drafting the report in a way which provides for incorporation of the Conference Statement and outcome. A meeting of the STC is scheduled to take place in Yokohama immediately following the World Conference, to review the draft mid-term review report. The Special High Level Council for the Decade is expected to meet in Yokohama just before the World Conference.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

STC Members

Mrs. Alexandra Amoako-Mensah
Director, Industrial Research Institute
Accra, Ghana

Mr. Anand S. Arya
Professor Emeritus, University of Roorkee
Roorkee, India

Mr. Mohammed Benblidia
Directeur Général
Agence Nationale pour l'Aménagement du Territoire
Algiers, Algeria

Mr. Driss Ben Sari
Directeur, Centre national de coordination et de
planification de la recherche scientifique et technique
Rabat, Morocco

Mr. James P. Bruce
Chairman, Scientific and Technical Committee
Chairman, Canadian Climate Program Board
Ottawa, Canada

Ms. Claudia Candanedo *
Chief, Hydrometeorology Department
Instituto de Recursos Hidraulicos y Electrificación
Panama, Panama

Mr. Umberto G. Cordani
Professor, Institute of Geosciences,
University of Sao Paulo
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Mr. Alberto Giesecke
Director, Regional Centre of Seismology for
South America (CERESIS)
Lima, Peru

---

* Having indicated unavailablility to attend

Mr. Vit Karnik
Chairman, Research Council, Geophysical Institute
Prague, Czech Republic

Mr. Vainö O. Kelhä
Director, Technical Research Centre of Finland
Instrument Laboratory (VTT)
Espoo, Finland

Mr. Roman L. Kintanar
Director-General, Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical
and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)
Quezon City, Philippines

Mr. Michel Lechat
Professor Emeritus, School of Public Health,
University of Louvain,
Brussels, Belgium

Mr. Philippe Masure *
Director, Environment and Risks Department,
Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières
Orléans, France

Mr. Dallas Peck
Director, United States Geological Survey
Reston, United States of America

Mr. Erich Plate
Professor of Civil Engineering
Director, Institute of Hydrology and
Water Resources Planning, Karlsruhe University (TH)
Karlsruhe, Federal Republic of Germany

Mr. Atsushi Takeda
Director for Earth Science Research
National Research Institute for Earth Science
and Disaster Prevention (NIED)
Tokyo, Japan

Ms. Mariló Ruiz de Elvira
Assistant to the Editor of "*El País*"
Madrid, Spain

---

* Having indicated unavailablility to attend

Mr. Li-Li Xie
Professor and Director, Institute of Engineering Mechanics
State Seismological Bureau of China
Harbin, China

Special Guests

Ms. Barbara Carby
Co-ordinator, Science and Technology
Office of the Principal, University of the West Indies
Kingston, Jamaica

Ms. Ailsa Holloway
Regional Adviser, Disaster Preparedness
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Harare, Zimbabwe

Commodore Clement John Littleton
Director-General
Emergency Management Australia
Dickson Act, Australia

Mr. Giuseppe Luongo *
Senator of the Italian Republic
Commission for Environment and Land-use
Professor of Physical Volcanology, University Federico II
Naples, Italy

Mr. Albert Tevoedjre
Director
Centre Panafricain de Perspective Sociale
Porto Novo, Benin

Mr. Yuri Vorobiev
First Vice-Chairman
EMERCOM of Russia
Moscow, Russian Federation

Mr. Jean-Jacques Wagner *
Centre d'Etudes des Risques Géologiques,
Sciences de la Terre, Université de Genève
Geneva, Switzerland

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* Having indicated unavailablility to attend

Governments and National Committees for IDNDR

Algeria	**Mr. Sid-Ali Branci** First Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Bahrain	**Mr. Hakim Bu-Hiji** First Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
	Mr. Salah Albufalas Third Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Canada	**Mr. Denis Potvin** Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Chile	**Mr. Camilo Sanhueza** Third Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Colombia	**Mr. Omar D. Cardona** Director-General, Dirección Nacional para la Prevención y Atención de Desastres, Focal Point for IDNDR Ministerio de Gobierno, Bogota
	Mr. Juan Carlos Espinosa First Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Germany	**Mr. Wolfgang Wagner** Third Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Greece	**Mr. Ionnis Kinnas** Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Italy	**Mr. Daniele Verga** First Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Japan	**Mr. Kyohei Nishida** Senior Planning Officer, Disaster Prevention Bureau National Land Agency Tokyo
	Mr. Makoto Saito Expert, Science and Technology Agency Tokyo
Libya	**Mr. Mohamed Saleh El Fakih** Second Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva

Mexico	**Mr. Sergio Sierra Bernal** Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Morocco	**Mr. Mohamed Bentaja** Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Nigeria	**Mr. Chiedu Osakwe** Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Peru	**Miss Romy Tincopa** Third Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Romania	**Mr. Georghe Istode** First Secretary, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Russian Federation	**Mr. Alexandre Bannov** Chief of Division, EMERCOM of Russia, Moscow
	Mr. Sergei Makarov Chief Expert, International Department, EMERCOM of Russia, Moscow
Senegal	**Mr. Balla Dia** First Counsellor, Permanent Mission, Geneva
United States of America	**Mr. Robert M. Hamilton** Chairman, Subcommittee on Natural Disaster Reduction, U.S. Geological Survey Reston V.A.
	Mr. Walter R. Lynn Chairman, U.S. National IDNDR Committee National Research Council, Washington D.C.
	Mr. Edward Gross Acting Vice-Chairman, Federal Subcommittee on Natural Disaster Reduction, NOAA Washington D.C.
	Mr. Harvey Ryland Senior Policy Advisor, Federal Emergency Management Agency Washington D.C.

United Nations

UN/DESD	**Mr. Isao Tsukagoshi** Senior Disaster Management Planner, UNCRD, Nagoya, Japan
UN/DHA	**Mr. John Tomblin** Chief, Disaster Mitigation Branch Geneva
	Mr. Michael Helke Senior Officer-in-charge of Communications Section Geneva
	Mr. Dusan Zupka Coordination Officer, Disaster Mitigation Branch Geneva
UNICEF	**Ms. Kirsi Madi** Assistant Programme Officer, Geneva
UNDP	**Mr. Evlogui Bonev** Senior Adviser, European Office, Geneva
UNITAR	**Mr. Jacques Tassin** Senior Special Fellow, Geneva
	Ms. Susanne Mallaun Associate Programme Officer, Geneva
WFP	**Mr. Bernd Käss** Chief, Geneva Office
ESCAP	**Mr. Cengiz Ertuna** Chief, Water Resources Section, Bangkok, Thailand
UNCHS	**Mr. Lars P. Ludvigsen** Head, Human Settlement Office, Geneva
UNCTAD	**Mr. A. Abbas** Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Least Developed Countries

Specialized Agencies and Related Organizations

FAO	**Mr. Timothy J. Aldington** Senior Policy and Planning Coordinator, AGD NDR World Conference Focal Point Rome, Italy
UNESCO	**Mr. Badaoui Rouhban** Programme Specialist Division of Earth Sciences Paris, France
WHO	**Ms. Natalie Domeisen** Technical Officer, Geneva
	Mr. Rodger Doran Medical Officer, Geneva
	Dr. Claude de Ville de Goyet Emergency Preparedness & Disaster Relief, Co-ordination Programme, PAHO Washington D.C., USA
WMO	**Mr. J. C. Rodda** Director, Hydrology and Water Resources Department Geneva
	Mr. K. Abe Senior Scientific Officer, Tropical Cyclone Programme World Weather Watch Department Geneva
	Mr. Don O. Vickers Consultant, Geneva
UNIDO	**Mr. A. Akpa** Officer-in-Charge, Geneva Liaison Office

Inter-Governmental Organizations

EC	**Mr. E. Thielmann** Head of Unit, ECHO-3, Prevention, Response, Information Commission of the EC, Brussels, Belgium

Council of Europe	**Mrs. Françoise Tondre** Secretary of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, Strasbourg, France

Non-Governmental Organizations

Business Council for Sustainable Development	**Mr. Albert Fry** Consultant, Geneva
Cranfield Disaster Preparedness Centre	**Mr. K.N. Westgate** Director, Swindon Wilts, United Kingdom
CRED	**Ms. Debarati Guha-Sapir** Director, Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Catholic University of Louvain Brussels, Belgium
European University Centre for Cultural Heritage	**Mr. Ferruccio Ferrigni** Deputy Director Ravello, Italy
The Geneva Association	**Mr. Walter R. Stahel** Deputy Secretary General, Geneva
ICSU	**Mr. Herman Th. Verstappen** President, International Geographical Union, International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences, Enschede, Netherlands
IFRC	**Ms. Yasemin Aysan** Preparedness Adviser, Geneva
NRC	**Mr. Stephen Rattien** Executive Director, Commission on Geosciences, Environment and Resources National Research Council, U.S. National Academy of Sciences, Washington D.C., USA
UATI/WFEO	**Mr. Adelin Villevieille** Chairman, IDNDR UATI/WFEO Task Committee Paris, France
	Mr. Jolyon Dromgoole Task Force for IDNDR, Institution of Civil Engineers, London, UK

IDNDR Secretariat

Dr. Olavi Elo
Director

Mr. Gregg Chappell
Senior Expert

Mr. Ludovic van Essche
Senior Officer

Mr. Ken Sudo
Expert for Earthquake Engineering

Ms. Elizabeth Kassaye
Public Information Officer

Ms. Maris Köhn
Expert for National Committees

Mr. Francesco Pisano
Expert for Project Development

Ms. Kyoko Kondo
Associate Expert

Mrs. Helena Molin Valdés
Regional Programme Officer for
the Latin American and Caribbean
Countries, San José, Costa Rica

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda (IDNDR/STC/1993/9)

2. Progress report of the IDNDR Secretariat on the Decade since STC.4 (IDNDR/STC/1993/10)

3. Consolidated report on programme development (IDNDR/STC/1993/11 - Chapter I)

   - Information strategy; public information; Stop Disasters
   - Information technology and systems
   - Economic aspects of disasters and private sector
   - Regional activities
   - The activities of National IDNDR Committees and the development of national programmes and projects, including DMB projects
   - International demonstration projects; international and regional IDNDR projects
   - UNCED follow-up: disasters and sustainable development; disasters and climate change

4. World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, Japan, 23 to 27 May, 1994 (IDNDR/STC/1993/11 - Chapter II):

   4.1 Current status of preparations for, and Programme of the Conference
   4.2 Outcome of the World Conference and the Yokohama Statement and the future of the Decade;

5. Mid-term review of the Decade: report to ECOSOC (June 1994)

6. Other business

7. Draft report of the 5th session of the STC

8. Closure of the session

LIST OF SESSION DOCUMENTS

Symbol	Agenda Item	Document Title
IDNDR/STC/1993/9	1	Agenda
IDNDR/STC/1993/10	2	Secretariat Progress Report on the Decade
IDNDR/STC/1993/11	3, 4	Consolidated Report on Programme Development and World Conference
IDNDR/STC/1993/Inf.1 and IDNDR/STC/1993/Inf.1/Rev.1		List of Participants
IDNDR/STC/1993/Inf.2		List of Information Papers

LIST OF INFORMATION PAPERS

Information paper 1. :	Public Information
Information paper 2. :	Information Technology and Systems
Information paper 3. :	IDNDR/Private Sector Meeting Munich-Re Press Release on Natural Disasters
Information paper 4. :	Report on IDNDR Activities in the Latin American and Caribbean Region
Information paper 5. :	Guidelines and Format of the National IDNDR Committees' Reports to the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction
Information paper 6. :	List of National IDNDR Committees/Focal Points for IDNDR Nominated by Countries
Information paper 7. :	Statistical Overview of Countries, Regions and National Committees
Information paper 8. :	Information Provided to ECOSOC on the Relative Vulnerability of Countries
Information paper 9. :	Information on the Activities of the German IDNDR Committee
Information paper 10.:	IDNDR Projects
Information paper 11.:	1993 Reports of the Inter-Agency Working Groups Convened by the IDNDR Secretariat
Information paper 12.:	World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction
Information paper 12.A:	World Conference Update
Information paper 12.B:	Topical Session: "Vulnerable Communities"
Information paper 12.C:	Topical Session: "Hazard-Resistant Structures"
Information paper 12.D:	Topical Session: "Warning Systems"
Information paper 12.E:	Topical Session: "Economic Aspects of Disaster Reduction for Sustainable Development"

Information paper 12.F:	Topical Session: "Inter-relationship between Natural and Technological Hazards"
Information paper 12.G:	Topical Session: "Modern Societies"
Information paper 12.H:	Poster Session
Information paper 12.I:	Regional Reports
Information paper 12.J:	General Comments
Information paper 12.K:	Draft Agenda, Main Committee Session on Public Sector/Private Sector/NGO Interface
Information paper 12.L:	Topical Session on "Hazard Resistant Structures" by WFEO/UATI
Information paper 13.:	IDNDR Strategy and Marketing
Information paper 14.:	Memorandum on Merger of DHA/DMB with IDNDR Secretariat
Information paper 15.:	"Hazards '93: 5th Conference of International Hazards Society", Qingdao (China), 29/08-3/09/93, Report by Mr. James P. Bruce, STC Chairman
Information paper 16.:	IDNDR Aichi/Nagoya International Conference 1993, Japan Summary, Concluding Statement
Information paper 17.:	UNHCR
Information paper 18.:	UNIDO
Information paper 19.:	UNCHS (Habitat)
Information paper 20.:	Disaster Mitigation Training Programme (DMTP)
Information paper 21.:	General Assembly, Second Committee - Interventions of: - Belgium (on behalf of the European Community) - China - Italy - Japan - Republic of Kazakhstan - UNESCO - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information paper 22.:	General Assembly - Second Committee Statement by Mr. Jan Eliasson, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs
Information paper 23.:	General Assembly - Second Committee Locust Infestation
Information paper 24.:	General Assembly - Second Committee Press Release
Information paper 25.:	Progress Report of UNESCO to the 5th Session of the Scientific and Technical Committee for IDNDR
Information paper 26.:	"The Centre's Activities in the Framework of IDNDR", European University Centre for Cultural Heritage, Ravello, Italy
Information paper 27.:	An African Humanitarian Initiative for Sustainable Development
Information paper 28.:	Progress Report on the Morocco IDNDR Demonstration Project
Information paper 29.:	International Emergency Readiness and Response Information System (IERRIS)
Information paper 30.:	Draft Outline, U.S. National Report for the World Conference
Information paper 31.:	ESCAP Activities on Natural Disaster Reduction
Information paper 32.:	The Integration of Environmental Considerations in the Development Process, and the Identification of Priority Issues in Sustainable Development, with the Focus on: Natural Resources Development and Management Including Water Resources and Natural Hazards
Information paper 33.:	Final Act of the Ouagadougou International Symposium on the Need and Timeliness for an African Humanitarian Initiative
Information paper 34.:	Exhibition of Children's Drawings

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters
DESD	United Nations Department of Economical and Social Development
DHA	[United Nations] Department of Humanitarian Affairs
DMB	Disaster Mitigation Branch
ECHO	European Community Humanitarian Office
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EMERTEC	Emergency Management-Environmental Risk Technology and Eduction Centre
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IERRIS	International Emergency Readiness and Response Information System
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NOAA	[United States] National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRC	[United States] National Research Council
PAHO	Pan-American Health Organisation
STC	Scientific and Technical Committee
UATI	Union Internationale des Associations et Organismes Techniques
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCRD	United Nations Centre for Regional Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Organisation for Industrial Development
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
USNAS	United States National Academy of Sciences
WFEO	World Federation of Engineering Organisations
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation